

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

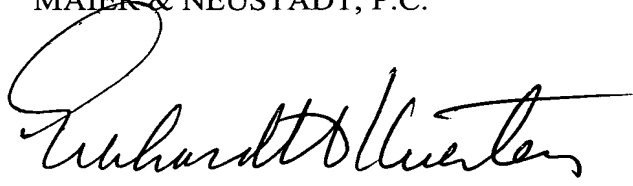
Claims 1, 2, 4-9 and 12-15 are pending in the present application. Claim 9 has been amended by this supplemental amendment.

Claim 9 has been amended to correct a spelling error. Thus, no new matter is added.

Consequently, in light of the prior indication of allowable subject matter and above discussion, and in view of the present amendment, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early action favorable to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Eckhard H. Kuesters
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 28,870

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 08/03)

EHK/GS:mda
I:\ATTY\GS\239476\SUPPAME.DOC